

TMT

M&A activity has slowly started to pick up, leading to greater transactional work for lawyers in the TMT sphere. Data protection is increasingly gaining importance, and with the proposed new General Data Protection Regulation coming from the EU, France is one of a number of countries who will have to adjust its regime to meet the new requirements. In this section we single out the 50 leading lawyers in this area.

Three practitioners from Kahn & Associés are selected for inclusion. The “fabulous” **Fabrice Perbost** has a wide-ranging TMT practice ranging from domain names to service contract preparation. **Sabine Lipovetsky** is highly regarded for her “top-notch technical skills” and advises clients on matters including outsourcing and distribution. Founding partner **Daniel Kahn** is a “leading light” in the field and specialises in new technology and IT. His previous experience includes advising the prime minister as part of a commission on electronic commerce legislation.

Bird & Bird also has three listings this year, including the “highly intelligent” **Frédérique Dupuis-Toubol**.

Specialising in communications and IT, she has a “very active” practice advising in the area of digital networks. Clients “would not hesitate to recommend” **Ariane Mole** thanks to her knowledge of data protection matters, and she heads the corresponding group in the Paris office. **Marc Schuler** is lauded for his “specialist skills” in distribution and IP and deals with matters ranging from simple licence agreements to website management.

At Bersay & Associés, **Claire Bernier** specialises in IT-related contracts and cybercrime and is described as an “absolute pleasure to work with”.

Emmanuel Schulte is an “expert” in technology transfer contracts and the organisation of distribution networks, while **Martine Georges-Naïm** is likewise commended for her “extensive grasp” of the regulatory environment for communications networks.

Pinsent Masons is represented by three “first class” individuals including **Diane Mullenex** who heads the international telecom, and gaming and gambling practices. She provides a “high quality service” to a number of clients in the industry and comes highly recommended this year. **Annabelle Richard** focuses her practice on e-commerce, gaming,

data protection and cybersecurity, and is a “powerhouse” in the market according to our sources. **Frédéric Ichay** advises IT and telecom companies on complex M&A transactions and is noted for his “business acumen” in these matters.

Gide Loyrette Nouel’s **Thierry Dor** is in charge of the firm’s information technology practice and advises both French and international clients in this sphere. Clients praise his “ability to get things done” and “efficiency” in all matters. **Olivier Cousi** focuses on telecommunications within the media and entertainment practice, and is lauded for his “fabulous industry knowledge”. **Rémy Fekete** advises public bodies and major telecommunication groups on issues related to broadcasting and distribution. He is highly regarded thanks to his “commitment and dedication” to his cases.

At De Gaulle Fleurance & Associés, **Louis de Gaulle** is a “seasoned” practitioner specialising in IP and new technologies. **Frank Valentin** is an “extremely capable” lawyer who displays “great strategic thinking”. He advises web content and service providers as well as several US production studios. **Charles-Edouard Renault** always “puts 110 per cent” into his cases, which include issues relating to media, audio-visual and entertainment law.

At his own firm, **Alain Bensoussan** is a “major player” in the market and an expert in advanced technology. He is joined by **Eric Barbry**; another “stand out” lawyer who specialises in digital law.

Bernard-Hertz-Béjot’s **Alexander Blumrosen** is a “trusted adviser” to a significant number of new technology and IT clients. The “accomplished” **Michel Béjot** is also nominated for his expertise in computer law and information technology.

Stéphane Lemarchand at DLA Piper assists IT service providers in litigation matters and strategic projects. He is praised for his “first-class negotiation

skills”. **Florence Guthfreund-Roland** is likewise commended for her “strong courtroom presence” in litigation involving telecommunications, internet and e-commerce.

Fieldfisher’s **Christopher Mesnooh** is an “authoritative counsel” on licensing agreements, cloud computing and EU privacy. **Bruno Ducoulombier** is “highly adept” at advising SMEs and corporations on outsourcing and integration contracts and copyright, and heads the IP and IT department at the firm’s Paris office.

At Hogan Lovells, **Winston Maxwell**’s practice covers data protection and privacy, telecommunications, internet, and media and entertainment law. He is recognised as having a “wide insight” into the TMT market. **Christine Gateau** is “in a class of her own” when it comes to defending online marketplaces against allegations regarding the sale of counterfeit items or breach of selective distribution networks.

Franklin’s **Bradley Joslove** is “one of the best” lawyers in this field and heads up the firm’s TMT and outsourcing teams. His clients include French and international TMT suppliers and service providers.

Alexandra Neri at Herbert Smith Freehills specialises in e-commerce, IP, IT and cybercrime. Her “impressive client roster” includes the likes of Google.

At Feral-Schuhl/Sainte-Marie, **Christiane Féral-Schuhl** provides “pragmatic and creative advice” to clients including software developers, venture capitalists and content providers.

Osborne Clarke’s **Béatrice Delmas-Linel** is praised for her “exceptional capabilities” in cloud computing and data protection.

André Meillassoux at ATM Avocats is a “key figure” in the market, where his experience stretches across a variety of industries including luxury goods and construction.

At Iteanu Law Office, **Olivier Iteanu**

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